



## THE SENATE

### ENERGY POLICY AND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE

**SENATOR BRUCE PATTERSON  
CHAIRMAN**

#### **MEMBERS:**

SEN. CAMERON BROWN, VICE CHAIRMAN  
SEN. PATTY BIRKHOLZ  
SEN. WAYNE KUIPERS  
SEN. RANDY RICHARDVILLE  
SEN. DENNIS OLSHOVE, MINORITY VICE CHAIR  
SEN. SAMUEL BUZZ THOMAS  
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## COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Energy Policy and Public Utilities was scheduled for Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009, for 1:00 p.m., in Room 210 of the Farnum Building.

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#### **The agenda summary is as follows:**

- 1) Discussion regarding the National Safety Council's call for a nation wide ban on cell phone use while driving.
  - 2) A review of Michigan's winter shut off protection measures.
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The Chairman called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. He instructed the Clerk to call the roll. At that time, the following members were present; Chairman Patterson, Senators, Brown, Birkholz, Kuipers, Richardville Olshove, Clarke, and Thomas, a quorum.

At 1:10 p.m., the Chairman proceeded to agenda item number one. He invited Charles Pryde and Louis Tijerina of Ford Motor Company to present testimony regarding cell phone use while driving.

Mr. Tijerina provided the committee with a copies of his presentation. (Copies of the document are available in the Clerk's files.)

Sen.(s) Patterson, Olshove, Brown, Thomas and Birkholz, posed questions to which the witnesses responded.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Pryde and Mr. Tijerina for their testimony.

Next, the Chairman entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the January 29<sup>th</sup> committee minutes. Sen. Birkholz so moved.  
The motion Passed without objection.

At 1:50 p.m., the Chairman proceeded to agenda item number two. He invited the Hon. Sharon Gire of the Office Of Services To The Aging to present testimony regarding utility shut off protection measures.

Ms. Gire provided written copies of her testimony to the committee. (Copies of the document are available in the Clerk's files.)

Sen.(s) Patterson and Birkholz, posed questions to which the witnesses responded.

The Chairman thanked Ms. Gire for her testimony.

At 2:00 p.m., the Chairman read a letter from Jim Weeks, Executive Director of the Michigan Municipal Electric Association regarding utility shut-off measures into the record.

Mr. Weeks provided written copies of his letter to the committee. (Copies of the document are available in the Clerk's files.)

The Chairman thanked Mr. Weeks for his letter.

At 2:15 p.m., the Chairman invited Dr. Mick Hiser, Director of Service and Quality Division of the Michigan Public Service Committee to present testimony regarding Michigan's utilities shut-off protection measures.

Dr. Hiser provided written copies of his testimony to the committee. (Copies of the document are available in the Clerk's files.)

Sen.(s) Patterson, Clarke and Thomas, posed questions to which the witnesses responded.

The Chairman thanked Dr. Hiser for his testimony.

At 2:40 p.m., the Chairman noted that at the request of the committee's members, he would postpone the discussion on smart grid technology until another meeting.

At 2:40 p.m., the Chairman invited Joyce Hayes-Giles, Senior Vice President of Customer Service of DTE to present testimony regarding DTE's shut off protection measures.

Ms. Hayes-Giles provided written copies of her testimony to the committee. (Copies of the document are available in the Clerk's files.)

Sen.(s) Patterson, Clarke and Brown posed questions to which the witnesses responded.

The Chairman thanked Ms. Hayes-Giles for her testimony.

With t he allotted time for committee having expired, the Chairman entertained a motion to adjourn. Sen. Kuipers so moved.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:53 p.m., on a voice vote, without objection.

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Scott Jones,  
Clerk of the Committee

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Senator Bruce Patterson,  
Chairman of the Committee

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Date Adopted by Committee